

**From:** Orem, Mary A [OremM@anderson1.k12.sc.us]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 11, 2011 2:42 PM  
**To:** Commissioner.Hamilton  
**Subject:** Duke Energy Proposed Rate Increase

Dear Commissioner Hamilton,

As a follow-up to the public forums you recently held concerning the proposed Duke Power rate increase, I'd like to thank you again for your patience in hearing all public positions statements on this matter. I was one of the first speakers at the Anderson, SC meeting to testify against the rate increase and as I sat through the evening (again, thank you) a picture emerged that I felt needed additional comment.

Regarding those individuals speaking on Duke's behalf, while not explicitly endorsing the rate increase, it was not clearly emphasized that the rates for commercial and manufacturing customers are already lower than residential rates. I assume this was part of their point in why economic development is the key to the capital investment they maintained was so vital to our state. It occurred to me that the reason they are not as unhappy about the amount they are charged for power is because they likely pass that cost onto their customers. Therefore, not only are residential customers paying higher personal energy costs, they are also paying higher costs for the goods and services they receive from commercial and manufacturing businesses.

I know you take your task here very seriously and I greatly appreciate that I have been able to speak my peace about this matter.

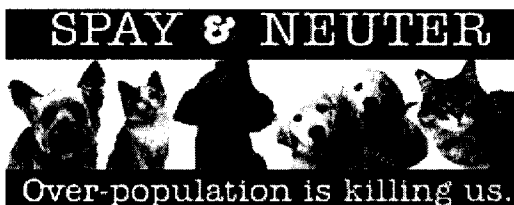
Kindest Regards,

Mary Orem  
300 Bishop Branch Road  
Pendleton, SC 29670

*Mary Orem*

Instructional Technology Specialist  
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## Gates, Nina

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**From:** Orem, Mary A [OremM@anderson1.k12.sc.us]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 11, 2011 2:39 PM  
**To:** Commissioner.Fleming  
**Subject:** Duke Energy Proposed Rate Increase

Dear Commissioner Fleming,

As a follow-up to the public forums you recently held concerning the proposed Duke Power rate increase, I'd like to thank you again for your patience in hearing all public positions statements on this matter. I was one of the first speakers at the Anderson, SC meeting to testify against the rate increase and as I sat through the evening (again, thank you) a picture emerged that I felt needed additional comment.

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## Gates, Nina

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**From:** Orem, Mary A [OremM@anderson1.k12.sc.us]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 11, 2011 2:48 PM  
**To:** Commissioner.Mitchell  
**Subject:** Duke Energy Proposed Rate Increase

Dear Commissioner Mitchell,

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